



Date: May 6, 2010

M E M O

To: Executive Board

From: Henry L. Gardner
Executive Director

Subject: **Executive Director's Report**

General Assembly and Regional Summit

On April 22nd ABAG and our regional agency partners, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, and the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, held a successful General Assembly and Regional Summit. Almost 400 elected officials, staff and non-profit agencies participated in the launching of our SB 375 Sustainable Communities Strategy planning process that will be ongoing underway until the spring of 2013 when the SCS will be completed. You will hear more about the General Assembly from ABAG's President at the May 20th Board meeting.

San Francisco Bay Trail

On Friday, May 7, 2010, the City of San Leandro held a Grand Opening ceremony for the Bay Trail Slough Bridge at the Oyster Bay Regional Park. The bridge was named the "Bill Lockyer Bay Trail Bridge," in honor of Treasurer Lockyer's vision and perseverance in bringing the Bay Trail to the greater San Francisco Bay Area. This dedication also commemorated completion of the 300th mile of the San Francisco Bay Trail. ABAG is proud to have played a key role in advancing the Bay Trail through the nine counties and 47 cities.

San Francisco Estuary Partnership

H.R. 5061, the San Francisco Bay Improvement Act of 2010, was recently introduced by Representative Jackie Speier and has been co-sponsored by members of the Bay Area delegation. The bill would authorize up to \$1 billion (\$100 million annually for ten years) to the U.S. EPA to fund projects, programs, and studies that implement priority objectives of the San Francisco Estuary Partnership's Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP). The bill also:

- Establishes a San Francisco Bay Program Office within Region 9 of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and authorizes the EPA Administrator to appoint a Director of that Program Office to oversee that funding.
- Establishes a San Francisco Bay Program Advisory Committee to provide advice to the Administrator on implementing the identified goals and objectives of the CCMP, with representation from appropriate Federal and State departments and agencies, including the Director of the SFEP.

This legislation would begin to bring San Francisco Bay/Estuary in line with other large aquatic ecosystems, such as the Great Lakes, Chesapeake Bay, and Puget Sound,



which receive substantial federal funding to achieve restoration objectives. More information is available at <http://sfestuary.org/pages/home.php>.

SFEP hosts Oil Spill Response Forum on May 11

As the world watches the oil spill response operations unfold in the Gulf of Mexico, the San Francisco Estuary Partnership and Pacific Environment will host a public forum on Tuesday, May 11, 2010, to discuss local preparedness for future oil spills in San Francisco Bay. The forum, *Oil Spills in San Francisco Bay: Preparing a Better Response*, is designed to raise awareness about the impacts of oil spills and to improve oil spill response in Bay Area waters.

SFEP kicks off Bay Area-wide Trash Capture Demonstration Project

On Tuesday, May 4, the Estuary Partnership kicked off this stimulus-funded project with a well-attended day of activities in Oakland. Public works staff from 60 Bay Area municipal government agencies, countywide stormwater protection agencies, water suppliers, and flood control districts attended a morning meeting devoted to learning about the Project and the variety of available types and sizes of trash capture devices, and an afternoon "vendor fair" where 15 suppliers of trash capture devices from around the state displayed their products and answered questions.

SFEP/ABAG is contracting with vendors to provide trash capture equipment to all Bay Area counties and cities that choose to participate. Funds are allocated to municipalities based on population and trash capture requirements in the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board's Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit, adopted in October. The Project is funded with \$5 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (stimulus) funds from the State Water Resources Control Board's Clean Water State Revolving Fund. Contact SFEP project manager Janet Cox, jwcox@waterboards.ca.gov, for more information.

ABAG POWER

Last December, ABAG coordinated with three other regions in the state (LA County, Sacramento and San Diego) to submit a grant application for the DOE Retrofit Ramp-Up funds. Recently LA County, as the lead applicant, was notified that the proposal had been tentatively awarded \$30 million, pending successful negotiations to reduce the original scope of work to correspond with the approved funding. The ABAG region expects to receive approximately \$8.7 million.

ABAG Financial Services

There were no financings delivered by ABAG and its affiliated entities since my last report.

My Resignation

After many years of public service and a satisfying tenure at ABAG, I have decided to resign as Executive Director effective August 31, 2010. I have attached my letter of resignation.

Attachment:

Resignation Letter dated May 3, 2010

ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS

Representing City and County Governments of the San Francisco Bay Area



May 3, 2010

Honorable Mayor Mark Green, President
Association of Bay Area Governments and
Honorable Members of the Board

Dear Mayor Green and Members of the Board:

After a long and rewarding career in local and regional government, I have decided to bring my public service to a close. Accordingly, I hereby submit my resignation, effective at the close of business on August 31, 2010.

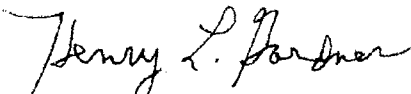
The challenges facing local governments and the region are daunting, especially given the ongoing fiscal constraints and the increasing needs and demands for additional and improved programs and services. Nevertheless, this is also a period of opportunities to engage leaders and constituents in the design and the making of a new course of direction that will preserve and enhance the enviable qualities of this great region. The Bay Area is poised to become the model of the state for sustainable development. The vision and political will are evident to make it so.

We have enjoyed much success in the past few years with a number of our programs and activities, and we are increasing participation among our members. I hope that I have played a small role in raising the visibility and importance of ABAG's work in addressing the goals of the region and in forging new avenues for cooperation and collaboration with our regional partners, chief among them the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

I am most appreciative of the leadership and steadfast support I have received from the officers and members of the Board during my tenure. I am also deeply indebted to the ABAG staff. They are a group of well-trained, talented, dedicated and committed individuals, and I commend them to you.

As I leave, I do so with the firm conviction that public service is an honorable calling. It has been a privilege and a distinct honor to serve as your Executive Director.

Respectfully submitted,


Henry L. Gardner



